

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

To secure for the following the undivided attention of our readers, it will be sufficient for us to state that it is from the pen of one of the ablest jurists of our country.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

Many of our ablest Members in both Houses of Congress seem to think that the annexation of Foreign States is within the treaty-making power. Others contend that it may be done by an act of Congress. Now, the one mode is just as unconstitutional as the other. The treaty-making power, as a matter of policy, is safer than the other, as a majority of two-thirds of the Senate must concur to ratify a treaty. But neither mode is constitutional.

Can this Government, by treaty, annex Great Britain, or France, or both? It can, upon the same principle that it can annex Texas. If it may annex one foreign State it may annex a continent. Has any one looked at the principle in this view?

It is true we have annexed Louisiana and Florida. But does that settle the construction of the Constitution? Those who contend that it does are generally opposed to the constitutionality of a Bank of the United States, although that question has been repeatedly decided by Congress and by the Supreme Court.

But, change the inquiry. Can this Government, by the treaty-making power, or by act of Congress, cede its sovereignty to England or France? This is exactly what we ask Texas to do; and we can do it as well as Texas. Does not the right to receive such a cession involve the right to make it? I assert that it does.

If we may enlarge our territory by the treaty-making power, we may, on the same principle, reduce it. If we may receive cessions of territory, we may make them. And if we may merge the sovereignty of another Government in ours, we may, on the same principle, merge our sovereignty in that of another Government—and this through the treaty-making power. The giving and receiving of territory are both within the treaty-making power, if either be within it.

There is no power given in the Constitution to cede nor to acquire territory. If either can be done by an act of Congress, or by treaty, then the exercise of either of those powers may subvert our Government. It may introduce into the body politic a people more numerous than ours, and which may change the Government. This lies within the principle asserted. And can it be that our Constitution is nothing? Is it to be blown away by the breath of popular excitement? Is it to be overturned by the exercise of the powers it confers? Does it contain within itself the seeds of its own destruction? If this indeed be the Constitution, it is not what it was taken to be. Its foundations were thought to be laid deeply, and upon great conservative principles. If it be what it is now represented to be, it is a cheat and fraud upon the world. It is nothing more than the plaything of demagogues.

I fear not so much the annexation of Texas as the principle on which it will be annexed. History proves that the lust of power is an uncontrollable passion of human nature. The Texas excitement may pass away with the acquisition of Texas; but other acquisitions will be brought on the political theatre by demagogues, to excite the public mind and control party action.

There is no security against this lust of power but by fencing it in with great and fundamental principles, which can only be changed by a majority of the people that shall approach to unanimity. This is what we supposed, what our fathers supposed, and what the civilized world supposed, had been done by our Constitution.

A CITIZEN.

THE "ANNEXATION."

Confident, we trust without sufficient foundation, of the success of the plans which have been laid for securing the passage by the Senate of the Texas Joint Resolution, in the form in which it has reached that body from the House of Representatives, some of the most active agents in the execution of those plans begin to disclose, through inadvertence doubtless, their full appreciation of the dangers in which the success of their machinations are to involve our country.

"If," says the New York Herald of Monday, "the Joint Resolution" should pass in a few days, that result would bring up a train of consequences in connection with our foreign relations that would probably produce a new and original crisis in the affairs of Europe, of America, and, perhaps, of the whole civilized world. The same popular feelings which, in this country, will have carried the annexation of Texas, will also occupy Oregon, and go ahead, in all general movements, so far as this continent is concerned. This policy will bring us into immediate collision with the policy of England, and the mutterings from that quarter, which for the last two months have been so audible, will become louder and stronger, until a collision, not only of opinion, but of physical force, must take place, that will be the commencement of a new era in the progress of the world.

"We are on the threshold of new and important movements among civilized nations, which, at all events, may embrace wide interests before its results settle down. Every thing will depend on the action of the present Senate; for that is the entering wedge to all that may follow—the first step in a new series of mighty events."—Herald.

COMMERCE OF THE WEST.

The Cincinnati Atlas of the 21st instant has the following notice of the present activity of trade and intercourse on the river:

"THE LANDING.—Our river landing is now a scene of great activity. We counted yesterday twenty-two boats actively employed in receiving and discharging freight for various points included on a river coast of nearly three thousand miles extent. There is, besides, the usual number of boats building, refitting, and preparing for the summer business. The Swifts left yesterday for Pittsburgh with upwards of one hundred and fifty cabin passengers; the ladies alone fill their own cabin and a large part of the state-rooms in the gentlemen's. The Hibernia leaves this morning."

FROM NAUVOO.

A gentleman from Nauvoo informs that the great mass of the population of the city is in a state bordering on starvation. There is no business going on, and no means of obtaining subsistence, only by charitable donations from the richer classes. Subscriptions are passing through the city for the relief of the poor, and every day baskets are carried around to collect provisions for the starving. Thieves from the Rigidonites are numerous as ever, notwithstanding the four hundred police. Indeed, this police is a protection to the thieves, or rather is made up of thieves in great part, who, when out at night, ostensibly for the protection of property, can more successfully purloin and hide it.

It is astonishing how the poor spiritless dupes of Nauvoo can bear in patience their sufferings. Many of them have been seduced from comfortable homes by the representations made by the Elders abroad of the glorious state of things at Nauvoo, and the brilliant prospects of its inhabitants. To them it was exhibited as an Eden—land and provisions cheap, money plenty, and wages high. They have left their all behind, many having made heavy sacrifices to come to the promised land, which they find, in sad reality, to be but the abode of misery. Should these poor dupes have their eyes opened by their sufferings, what would be the fate of those villainous leaders who have deceived them by the most brilliant representations which they knew at the time to be false?—*Warren Signal.*

The mammoth steam-ship *Great Britain* is supplied with life-boats constructed on a new principle, and capable of carrying four hundred persons.

AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

The following is a copy of the communication made by the President to Congress on Thursday, on the subject of the African Slave Trade:

To the Senate and

House of Representatives of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for the information of Congress, copies of certain despatches recently received from Mr. W. W. E. Channing, Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Brazil, upon the subject of the Slave Trade, developing the means used and the devices resorted to in order to evade existing enactments upon that subject.

Anxious desirous as are the United States to suppress a traffic so revolting to humanity, in the efforts to accomplish which they have been the pioneers of civilized States, it cannot but be a subject of the most profound regret that a portion of our citizens should be found acting in co-operation with the subjects of other Powers in opposition to the policy of their own Government, thereby subjecting to suspicion and to the hazard of disgrace the flag of their own country. It is true that this traffic is carried on altogether in foreign ports, and that our own coasts are free from its pollution. But the crime remains the same wherever perpetrated, and there are many circumstances to warrant the belief that some of our citizens are deeply involved in its guilt. The mode and manner of carrying on the trade are clearly and fearlessly set forth in the accompanying documents; and it would seem that a regular system has been adopted for the purpose of thwarting the policy and evading the penalties of our laws. American vessels, with the knowledge, as there are good reasons to believe, of the owners and masters, are chartered, or rather purchased, by notorious slaveholders in Brazil, aided by English brokers and capitalists, with this intent: The vessel is only nominally chartered at so much per month, the crew is actually sold, to be delivered on the coast of Africa, the charter party binding the owners, in the mean time, to take on board, as passengers, a new crew in Brazil, who, when delivered on the coast, are to navigate her back to the ports of Brazil with her cargo of slaves. Under this agreement the vessel clears from the United States for some port in Great Britain, where a cargo of merchandise, known as "cost goods," designed especially for the African trade, is purchased, shipped, and consigned, together with the vessel, either to the slaveholder himself or to his agents or accomplices in Brazil. On her arrival, a crew is put on board as passengers, and the vessel and cargo consigned to an equally guilty factor or agent on the coast of Africa, where the unlawful purpose originally designed is finally consummated. The merchandise is exchanged for slaves—the vessel is delivered up—her name obliterated, her papers destroyed, her American crew discharged, to be provided for by the charterers, and the new or passenger crew put in command to carry back its miserable freight to the principal contrivers of the voyage, or their employees in Brazil.

During the whole progress of this tortuous enterprise it is possible that neither the American crew originally enlisted, nor the passenger crew put on board in the Brazilian ports, are aware of the nature of the voyage, and yet it is on these principally, ignorant, if not innocent, that the penalties of the law are inflicted; while the guilty contrivers, the charterers, brokers, owners, and masters—in short, all who are most deeply concerned in the crime and its rewards, for the most part escape unpunished.

It will be seen from the examinations which have recently taken place at Rio, that the subjects of her Britannic Majesty, as well as our own citizens, are deeply implicated in this inhuman traffic. British factors and agents, while they supply Africa with British fabrics in exchange for slaves, are chiefly instrumental in the abuse of the American flag; and the suggestions contained in the letter of Mr. Wise, (whose judicious and zealous efforts in the matter cannot be too highly commended,) addressed to Mr. Hamilton, the British Envoy, as to the best mode of suppressing the evil, deserve our most deliberate consideration, as they will receive, I doubt not, that of the British Government.

It is also worthy of consideration whether any other measures than those now existing are necessary to give greater efficacy to the just and humane policy of our laws, which already provide for the restoration to Africa of slaves captured at sea by American cruisers. From time to time provision has been made by this Government for their comfortable support and maintenance during a limited period after their restoration, and it is much to be regretted that this liberal policy has not been adopted by Great Britain. As it is, it seems to me that the policy it has adopted, is calculated rather to perpetuate than to suppress the trade, by enlisting very large interests in its favor. Merchants and capitalists furnish the means for carrying it on; manufacturers for which the negroes are exchanged are the products of her workshops; the slaves, when captured, instead of being returned back to their homes, are transferred to her colonial possessions in the West Indies, and made the means of swelling the amount of their products, by a system of apprenticeship for a term of years, and the officers and crew who capture the vessel receive on the whole number of slaves so many pounds sterling per capita, by way of bounty.

It must be obvious, that while these large interests are enlisted in favor of its continuance, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to suppress the nefarious traffic, and that its results would be in effect but a continuance of the slave trade of another and more cruel form for it can be but a matter of little difference with the African, whether he is torn from his country and transported to the West Indies, as a slave, in the regular course of the trade, or captured by a cruiser, transported to the same place, and made to perform the same labor under the name of an apprentice; which is at present the practical operation of the policy adopted.

It is to be hoped that Her Britannic Majesty's Government, upon a review of all the circumstances stated in these despatches, adopt more efficient measures for the suppression of the trade which she has so long attempted to put down, with, as yet, so little success, and more consonant with the original policy of restoring the captured African to his home.

JOHN TYLER.

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 19, 1845.

A WHIG FAMILY.—A correspondent of the Rochester Democrat says that there is now living in that city a man, who, with his sons, sons-in-law, grandsons, and grandsons-in-law, number thirty-one voters, all Whigs, and all testate temperance men. This family had twenty votes for the lamented HARRISON in 1840, and in 1844 twenty-six of them voted for HENRY CLAY, three were absent from home, and two, from conscientious scruples, could not cast their votes for a man holding slaves. This venerable father, too, was a soldier of the Revolution, and served his country faithfully, having at five different times volunteered to march and meet the enemy, and was present at the capture of General Burgoyne, at Saratoga, in 1777.

STEAMBOATS SUNK.—The Washington (Arkansas) Telegraph of the 29th ultimo says: "We learn by a gentleman direct from Shreveport that the steamers *Agnes* and *Colonel Harney* were both sunk in Lower Red river a short time since. The *Colonel Harney* was a new boat, built expressly for the trade by Capt. Moore, who, it will be recollected, had the misfortune to lose his boat last season by fire. The particulars we did not learn."

ANOTHER.—The steamer *Pearl River* sunk last week on the Onatchita, a short distance below Arkadelphia. She had a full load of cotton on board at the time.

ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY.—At a late meeting of the Society of Arts, held in London, a paper on an atmospheric railway, invented by Mr. J. P. FLEMING, Civil Engineer, was read. It is thus described: "A rope or tube is laid in the earth, midway between the rails, and secured to wooden sleepers, at intervals of about thirty feet, and fixed to boxes cast on the tube on each side: in each box works a vertical spindle or axle, to which are fixed two small cog-wheels or pinions, the one being inside the box and the other outside. A diaphragm or piston works within the tube, as in the original atmospheric railway tube; but to the piston is attached a rack, so that when the piston is moved by the exhaustion of the tube in front of the piston, the rack is moved with it; and that, acting on two or more of the lower or under pinions, causes the upper pinions to revolve at the same time, and with the same velocity. A second rack, of the same length as that within the tube, is attached to the first carriage; and, as the upper pinions revolve, the rack, and consequently the carriage to which it is attached, move with it. Thus the longitudinal valve required in Samuda's railway is dispensed with."

SUBDUING OF MICH.—A lawyer, (says the New York Journal of Commerce,) who was testifying in one of the cases in relation to a man's estate, said: "I have no doubt of the old gentleman being perfectly sane at the time referred to. I recollect that he refused to pay me my costs, or at least he made me strike several items off my bill."

COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION.

The Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the Commerce and Navigation of the United States was presented in both Houses of Congress on Saturday. The "Constitution" makes the following abstract of some of its leading items:

Summary Statement of the value of Domestic Exports from the United States for the year ending June 30, 1844.

Products of the sea—fish, oil, whalebone, and sperm candles, &c.	\$3,350,501
Of the forest—skins, furs, lumber, pot, and pearl ashes, naval stores, &c.	5,808,712
Of animals—meats, hides, butter, cheese, cat-tail, &c.	6,149,379
Vegetable Food—Grain, fruits, biscuit, &c. (except flour).	10,529,328
Flour	6,759,498
Tobacco	8,397,250
Cotton	54,063,501
Manufactures—Cotton piece goods	2,898,780
Soap and Candles	619,544
Souff and Tobacco	536,600
Lead	595,238

Total. \$99,715,179
Value of exports of foreign merchandise. 11,527,248
Value of Imports into the United States for the year ending June 30, 1845.

Free of duty.	\$24,766,881
Ad valorem duties.	52,351,291
Specific duties.	31,352,863
Total.	\$108,479,035

Number of American and Foreign vessels which cleared from ports in the United States during the year ending June 30, 1844.

Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Boys.
American.	8,343	2,010,924	99,300
Foreign.	5,200	906,814	55,075
Total.	13,543	2,917,738	154,375

Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Boys.
American.	8,148	1,977,438	97,459
Foreign.	5,377	917,992	55,848
Total.	13,525	2,895,430	153,307

Of the foreign vessels which entered, were—
British. 5,030 766,747 49,168 956
Hanseatic. 155 52,669 2,239 19
Swedish. 110 34,706 1,353 4
French. 55 17,257 760 10

Of the exports and imports from the various States, we enumerate the following:

Exports.	Imports.	Vessels.	
Maine.	\$1,176,135	\$570,824	1,257
Massachusetts.	9,096,286	20,296,007	2,356
New York.	32,861,540	65,079,516	5,791
Pennsylvania.	3,355,256	7,217,287	453
Maryland.	5,133,166	3,917,750	457
Virginia.	2,942,279	267,654	236
South Carolina.	7,433,282	1,131,525	397
Georgia.	4,283,805	305,634	168
Alabama.	9,907,454	442,818	320
Louisiana.	30,498,307	7,828,789	1,001

THE BRITISH PRESS.

FROM THE NEW YORK COURIER AND ENQUIRER.

President Tyler's special message to Congress on Annexation is published in the *Times* of the 13th, and followed on the next day by comments. The *Times* declares itself "divided between amazement and sheer diversion at the language and demeanor of this personage, speaking as never man spoke before in the name of the Executive Government of twenty millions of civilized beings." The direct and palpable contradiction between this message, which declares that the Executive of the United States sought union with Texas, and the message at the opening of Congress, in which he avowed that Texas first solicited the annexation, is pointed out, and the course of his diplomacy upon this subject is very severely scanned.

"The acts and motives of the American Government in this and too many other transactions," says the *Times*, "stand in need of no 'deliberate misrepresentation' to incur the censure and the scorn of every other political community in the world. Even their intrigues are as potent and flagrant as other men's crimes. In this instance the whole correspondence is public; and as the matter is really only indirectly connected with the interests of this country, some weight may be attached to our solemn conviction—a conviction shared by every man in Europe who has examined the particulars of this transaction—that, from the first to the last, the proceedings of the United States to effect the annexation of Texas are a scandal and a dishonor not only to their country, but to the age we live in."

The *Times* concludes its article by saying that nothing but the distracted condition of Mexico can prevent a war with the United States, and says that the spirit of rapine and violence which has marked the whole of this attempted acquisition is a matter—

"Of serious moment to all the world; but most of all to such honorable and patriotic citizens of the United States themselves who still respect, though they cannot maintain, the principles of their fathers. The world has already proved fatal to the integrity and prudence of the American Government; it will hereafter prove equally fatal to their national interests; it has blasted their honor, it will hereafter dissolve their power, divide their country, and impose a dreadful burden on their children's children: for it is the first step they will have made in foreign conquest for the gratification of popular ambition."

Later intelligence from this country was received by the ship *Sea*; and the *Times* of the 31st ultimo makes an amusing, and still severer, comment on the various movements of the United States with regard to Oregon and Texas. It seems to be taken for granted, the *Times* remarks, that the election of Mr. Polk settled the right of the United States to those territories, and the only question that remains to be settled relates to the time and manner of their occupation:

"That the moral is to be swallowed," says the *Times*, "is settled. The licking of lips has commenced. The gentlemen of the United States are about enlarging their boundaries, and they are evidently resolved that they will not know what it is for people to be engaged in so pleasing a task. But there seems to be a hitch or two still, as indeed might probably have been anticipated, as to the way in which and the means by which the prey is to be secured. The politicians of the United States have 'resolved' that Texas and the Oregon ought to be, and therefore are, standing ready to be killed and eaten; but they seem now to be very considerably at a loss to know, as the boys say, 'where to have them.'"

The various means which have been proposed are then sketched, and all these plans, it is remarked, proceed upon the comfortable assumption that the prey is secure. The same course is pursued with regard to the Oregon question; and the *Times* closes with the following remarks upon the very grave importance of these proposed measures:

"There are two parties to the occupation of the Oregon, and more than two to the appropriation of Texas. The friends in the United States will probably learn before very long, if they have not learnt already. Mere unprincipled, profligate self-aggrandizement is all that the United States have to allege in support of the monstrous breach of all natural justice and positive treaty which would be involved in either of the measures in which they seem so deeply engaged. In neither case nor the other could the States reasonably expect this country to acquiesce; and the annexation of Texas would involve a disturbance of the settled relations of the American continent, in which all the chief European Powers would be more or less interested; yet there seems to be no pause on the part of the States in a headlong adoption of them; and though it would be premature until the measures have passed the Legislature to speculate on them as accomplished, yet they certainly appear to have been already pushed to a point that demands the most serious attention to them."

We see it stated in the *Columbia* (S. C.) Chronicle that the Rev. FERRIS JAMES (B. C.), and nurse, all died on the night of the 21st ultimo, of pneumonia, at Yorkville, in that State. Mr. Jacobs was Pastor of the Presbyterian Church and Principal of the Female Academy of that village.

THE WASHINGTON FAMILY.

The following letter, translated from the German, contains some interesting particulars respecting a branch of the Washington family. The letter from General WASHINGTON, to which the writer alludes, may be seen in Sparks's *Washington*, vol. xi, p. 393; and other particulars concerning the family in vol. i, p. 854. JAMES WASHINGTON is there mentioned as having been a merchant in Rotterdam.

MUNICH, FEBRUARY 21, 1844.

HONORED SIR: It was not till the 17th of this month that I received your favor of December 13th; I could not, therefore, answer it earlier. In compliance with your wish I will, with pleasure, communicate to you some facts relating to my family. The branch from which I am descended has undoubtedly the same ancestor as that from which the American branch descended, which is proved also by the same coat of arms.

The family of Washington is descended from a good old English family, which, in early times, owned considerable possessions in the counties of York and Northampton, and in other places. It became connected, by marriage, with the family of Shirley, Earl Ferrers. Sir Lawrence Washington married Elizabeth, a daughter of the second Earl Ferrers. It was also connected with that of Villiers, Duke of Buckingham. A branch of the family, from unknown causes, were they wealthy, emigrated about the year 1650 to America; and the well known (one may say with truth the universally famous) General and President George Washington was descended from it.

My great grandfather, James Washington, was so deeply implicated in the unfortunate affair of the Duke of Monmouth, in the time of Charles II, 1683 and 1684, that he was obliged to fly from England, and, after losing by shipwreck on the coast of Portugal every thing of his personal property that he had been able to carry away from England, he came to Holland. While there, he was frequently demanded on the part of England by its ambassador, and his delivery insisted upon; but the General States did not consent; and thus he became the founder of that branch, which then began to flourish in Holland, and is still in existence in the persons of two individuals, cousins, lieutenants in the army and navy. I possess an autograph letter of the great man, George Washington, from Mount Vernon, January 20, 1793, in which, among other things, it is said: "There can be but little doubt, sir, of our descending from the same stock, as the branches of it proceeded from the same country; at what time your ancestors left England is not mentioned; mine came to America nearly one hundred and fifty years ago."

At the age of sixteen I received, in 1794, a commission in the Dutch service, but was unwilling to serve the Batavian Republic founded in 1795; and, being a faithful follower of the house of Orange, I emigrated. At the formation of the Dutch brigade of the Prince of Orange in the English service in 1799, I was appointed lieutenant in that brigade, until the disbanding of the latter, after the peace of Amiens, in 1802. A few months later I had the good fortune to enter the Bavarian service. Since then, nearly forty-two years have passed, of which I have been attached no less than thirty-seven years to the most high person of the King, partly as marshal of the Court, and partly as aide-de-camp.

I have also planted a stock in Bavaria, which, if God will, is some time to bear good fruit to the King and country. I have three sons: the eldest, Ludwig, sixteen years old, is a page of his Majesty the King; the second, Max, fourteen years old, is pupil in the Royal Corps of Cadets; and the third, Karl, ten years old, frequents the public school. By my two marriages with daughters of families of the highest nobility in the land, my children are placed in agreeable circumstances, even when I shall be no more; and, in this manner, this branch of the family in this new country may flourish. God give his blessing to it!

It would lead me too far to enter into details of my biography; for, being in earlier years frequently exposed to the storms of fate, brought on chiefly by revolutions, and at a later period placed in important offices and other relations, I could not do it without being very long; and, since this letter has already attained a considerable extent, that which has been said will, I hope, satisfy you. I will only add, in order that I may become altogether acquainted with my situation here, that I will submit to the signature of my name what is otherwise not usual; but in this case I think I may make an exception, because it forms in a manner a part of my biography.

Thanking you for the literary production transmitted to me, which possesses, by the preface of the renowned Professor Hermann, an enhanced value, I remain, with sentiments of perfect esteem, your devoted,

BARON VON WASHINGTON,
Royal Bavarian Chamberlain, Lieutenant General and Aide-de-camp to his Majesty the King, Commander of the Order of Civil Merit of the Bavarian Crown, of the Greek Order of the *Stavros*, of the *British Military Order of the Bath*, Knight of the *Legion of Honour*, and of the *Legion of Honor*, and of the *Legion of Honor*.

To Dr. J. G. FLECK.

Consul of the U. S. of N. America in Leipzig.

To those who deem the illustrious character and the great example of WASHINGTON as we do, it cannot be otherwise than gratifying to observe the manner in which the Anniversary of his birth was celebrated at the seat of Government of the State of Pennsylvania. On Saturday last, for instance, both branches of the Legislature, with the Governor, heads of Departments, and Board of Revenue Commissioners, assembled in the Hall of the House of Representatives at ten o'clock, and, after the reading of the Farewell Address of Gen. WASHINGTON, immediately adjourned without transacting any business.

Among other particulars published in the Nashville "Union," of the 15th instant, upon the authority of Major DONELSON, just returned from Texas, we learn that "the result of the recent election in the United States was highly acceptable to President JONES; and, as an indication of the opinion of the people of the United States, met with a hearty response in all the branches of the 'Texian Government.'"

Tobacco.—The Vicksburg Whig states that a gentleman in Madison parish, Louisiana, tried an experiment of raising tobacco on his farm last year, (the seed from Havana), and the product was sold in Vicksburg for \$15 per hundred. The purchaser says it was worth bringing \$25 per hundred in New Orleans. His opinion is that nothing but age is wanting to make it equal to the best Havana, which sells at \$60 per hundred. He made it into cigars and sold them at \$30 per hundred. The land produced at the rate of one thousand to twelve hundred pounds per acre. Tobacco is certainly, at this price, the most profitable production of this country.

FROM THE HARTFORD (CONN.) TIMES.

PAINTED SUICIDE.—The friends of Gen. SAMUEL L. PETERS, of East Hartford, became alarmed at his absence on the night of the 18th instant. He left his house with the intention of visiting his powder mills, situated on the Hockanum river, in a desolate state of mind when he left, and his friends started after him when they found that he did not return at the proper time. The result of their search was in finding his corpse in the Hockanum river, a short distance from his mill. A razor-case was also found on the bank near his overcoat, in which he had placed what money and papers he had about him. His throat was cut sufficiently to deprive him of life.

The trial of Fairbank, the abolitionist, took place at Lexington, Ky., on the 13th instant. When arraigned he pleaded "not guilty" to the several indictments found against him; but after the jury were empaneled and sworn, that plea was withdrawn and the plea of "guilty" entered by the desire of the prisoner, who threw himself entirely upon the mercy of the jury. Being allowed to make an address to the jury in his own behalf, he avowed himself an abolitionist, but pleaded the force of education to palliate the enormity of his offence, which he declared was more plain to him on reflection than heretofore. He also said that he again felt he would neither countenance nor aid the escape of slaves, since he was convinced that, although the condition of some might be ameliorated, many were happier as they are, and that such a course would tend to increase the misery and discontent of those who were left behind. The jury sentenced him to five years' confinement in the penitentiary on each of the three indictments, making fifteen years in all; and the judgment of the Court was pronounced in accordance with this verdict.

The steamer *Hibernia*, at Boston, from Liverpool, brought over the largest mail ever received from the other side of the Atlantic. She had fifty thousand letters in her mail bags, and about one hundred and forty bushels of newspapers.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

RECEIVED FROM THE STEAMSHIP HIBERNIA.

The Queen and Prince Albert have been paying royal visits, one of state to the Duke of Buckingham at Stowe, and one more private and friendly kind to the Duke of Wellington at St. James's Palace, where the royal party stayed two or three days.

A rumor prevails that Lord Cowley is about to retire from his duties as British Ambassador at Paris. Among others, the Marquis of Londonderry is spoken of as his successor, but this part of the rumor is not thought well grounded.

The Duke de Broglie was expected in England on an important mission from the French Government, having referred to the right of search and the general question of slavery. The London Sun of the 3d, in noticing the expected arrival of the Duke, expresses the hope that a settlement of the long pending difference on this important subject will shortly take place to the mutual satisfaction of both parties.

The official returns of the manufacture and consumption of domestic sugar in France shows that there were 289 factories in activity on the 1st of January, 1845, or 35 less than at the corresponding period in 1844. The quantity manufactured in the year, together with that lying over since 1842, amounted to 18,185,461 kilogrammes, or 590,643 less than in 1843, and the quantity sold for consumption to 13,456,671 kilogrammes, or 1,083,039 more than in 1844. The duties levied on that article in 1844 produced 8,066,381*fr.*, or 1,674,644*fr.* more than in the preceding year.

A letter dated St. Petersburg, Jan. 9, states that positive information has been received there that Dr. Wolff, who has arrived at Teheran from Bokhara, would return home by way of Russia and St. Petersburg. He was expected at St. Petersburg very shortly.

Accounts from Alexandria mention that the plan of establishing a railroad from Cairo to Suez had been nearly abandoned. An engineer, Mr. Mangel, had proposed to the Pasha to open an expenditure of about 1,500,000 *fr.* for a canal between Cairo and Suez, by means of which goods landed at Suez would be conveyed in boats from that harbor to Alexandria.

The Republic of St. Domingo has contracted for a loan of £1,000,000 stock, bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, payable in London every six months, and to be issued to the public at a price not exceeding 95 per cent.

On the 19th ultimo the Cathedral Church of the Greyfriars, Edinburgh, in connection with the Scottish Established Church, was totally destroyed by fire. It was a very ancient building, having been founded by the association of monks, like others of its age, comprised two churches under one roof